

# Bethel Weekly Update

May 12, 2022

**Web:** <https://bethelprinceton.com>

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## Announcements and Updates

**NOTE FROM PASTOR MARK ABOUT COVID AND WORSHIP AT BETHEL:** Here's a note from pastor Mark:

*"We all feel disappointed that COVID made another visit to our Bethel community. We made the difficult decision to cancel service this past week, but are planning to be back up and running this week. We also will be working to establish a plan for what to do if this happens again (outbreak at Bethel). We thought we were done with this stuff(!)... but as many people are saying, it looks like COVID will be endemic from here on out (ie. coming back around in different strains, like the flu). We'll have to deal with situations like this as it continues to shift with different variants in the months (years?) to come. As has been confirmed in conversations with medical professionals here in Princeton, what made this recent outbreak so challenging has been that its symptoms were so minor and similar to the common cold (or allergies). We will continue to monitor developments as we move forward, but for now, here are several principles and a request from the elders:*

- 1. Since it appears we are entering the endemic phase of COVID, we will work hard to keep a balance of being careful and prudent, yet also try to keep "business as usual" with our programs and meetings as much as possible. We will enact a strategy to keep the doors open, or at least something available online, should such an outbreak happen again.*
- 2. We are loathe to mandate any kind of renewed mitigation measures at church -- such as requiring masks. People are free to wear them in our services if they like, or not.*
- 3. One thing we **do** ask -- a new request, in light of all that's been said above: **we're asking for renewed vigilance around a "zero sickness symptom" policy at Bethel.** If you have symptoms of cold / flu -- even if it doesn't seem serious and "well of course this couldn't be COVID" -- we ask that you stay home and worship with us online rather than in-person. Welcome to the new COVID endemic world. :-{*

*Finally, let me add one more thing ... in case anyone is trying to pinpoint who "patient zero" might have been, and who spread COVID at our church service on May 1: **give it up.** Once again, note that we've been told that this latest strain has become so prevalent in this area that it's possible that Bethel's May 1 service **may not have been** the spreader event. We have 22 people who've tested positive for COVID since May 1 ... and as one person put it, "they could have gotten it anywhere." That doesn't mean we are trying to shirk our responsibility as a church to help keep people safe ... but rather, that we're now living in an environment where COVID is around us, and will likely continue to be for a while.*

**WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR THIS WEEKEND:** Pastor Mark Brouwer has been bringing us a message series on "A Life That Works: Lessons from the book of James." This week's message is "Patience in Suffering" on James 5:7-11.

**COMMUNION THIS SUNDAY:** Note also that during our worship service on Sunday, we'll be celebrating communion together.

**IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE** - Two Sundays ago, Pastor Mark Brouwer preached a message in the series on the book of James, entitled "What is 'Real' Faith?"

**Sermon Text:** James 2:1-17

**Sermon Link:** <https://youtu.be/3eWhpxSNtUI?t=2158>

**Sermon Notes**

<https://www.bethelprinceton.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Sermon-Notes-JAMES2-Faith.pdf>

**40 DAYS OF PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR ANNUAL CRC MEETING (SYNOD):** As part of the CRCNA's year long prayer initiative "Together, Seeking God's Face" you are invited into 40 days of intentional, guided prayer leading up to Synod 2022: (Link below) <https://network.crcna.org/prayer/seeking-gods-face-forty-days-prayer>

**Brenda Baas graduates with a Nursing degree!** You are invited to rejoice with Brenda upon completion of nursing school for RN. It hasn't been easy, with working outside the home and raising a very active family! Congratulations, Nurse Brenda! Please stay after this week's service to congratulate her and have some cake.

**Flowers for Amy Terborg:** The flowers in the sanctuary this Sunday are provided by Sue Terborg in loving memory of her daughter Amy, who died 12 years ago on April 29.

**Baby Bottle Campaign for Life Choices Center:** This Sunday, our church will join other area churches in filling Baby Bottles with change to support the pro-life ministry of the Life Choices Center. Please take a bottle home on your way out of church today (bottles are in the Gathering Place) and return it with your donation by Sunday, June 5th. Thank you for participating!

**BETHEL ART CLASSES (BAC) - JULY 25-28, 2022:** Thank you to those who have signed up to help with BAC this year! Some of the classes that will be offered this year: Adirondack chairs, Balloon twisting, Woodburning, and Tie Dye. More classes will be coming. Registration will be June 10th. We are so excited to have a Christ-centered Art Program again this year, and we ask that you continue to pray for the preparations and for the kids that will be part of BAC this year

**NEIGHBORHOOD FLYER DELIVERY:** BAC is looking for volunteers on June 5th to canvas the Princeton neighborhoods to pass out invitations for the Bethel Art Classes that will take place July 25th-28th. This will be done after church; following this a Subway lunch with dessert will be provided. Please be in prayer for this opportunity to invite those children who may not know who Jesus is.

**Last day of the following ministries for this school year:**

- **May 17 (Tues):** Coffee Break Bible Study
- **May 18 (Wed):** Boys Club & Wednesday's Table
- **May 22 (Sun):** Sunday School
- **June 1 (Wed):** Ignite Youth Bonfire

**On-going ministries through the summer:**

- **Friday Morning Prayer Group:** Every Friday (7:00-8:00 am)
- **Men to Action:** 1st & 3rd Mondays (7:00-8:30 pm)

**Want to partner up with Ignite for DO SOMETHING (June 18-26)?** Ignite is looking for individuals to sign up to be Prayer Partners for one of the kids or leaders going on the trip. You would be writing little messages for the students as well as buying treats for that particular individual - called Warm Fuzzies. Warm Fuzzies are always a highlight of the trip and are SO appreciated by those receiving them! If you are interested, please send your name and contact to Andrea Henry at [andreaHenry2097@gmail.com](mailto:andreaHenry2097@gmail.com) or text her at 763-250-8435.

SERVANT SCHEDULE	May 15, 2022	May 22,2022
Door Greeters:	Betsy & Richard Wergin	Wayne & Muriel McMinn
Christ Candle:	Arielle Shaw	Hanna Morris
Coffee Café:	Lisa Carman/Karen Sartell	CaraBethe Holmstrom/McMinn's
Nursery:	Carol Van De Riet/Tonnie Huonder	Carol Van De Riet/Tonnie Huonder
Powerpoint Operator:	Christian Shaw	Alissa Lueck
Second Offering:	Ukrainian Family Aide Hand out Life Choices Baby Bottles	None

## We are Family

### Prayer Corner

#### Praises:

- **Praising God** for His healing touch in the lives of many in our congregation.
- **Gene Finch** is home from the hospital and doing well.

#### Requests:

- **Chuck Kingsbury:** Pray for his on-going health issues and strength for Phyllis as caregiver.
- **Lisa Carman:** Pray for health and recovery for father (Ron) and sister-in-law (Hope).
- **Sam Daml:** Peace of mind for Sam while some family issues are being resolved.
- **Julian Baas:** For his health and well-being. For him to feel the love and support of his church family.
- **Sue Terborg's brother, Cal:** Having treatments for CLL (chronic lymphocytic leukemia).
- **Prayers of protection for those in prison:** Remember Tyson, McMinn's friend, who is serving time.
- **All those** who are suffering with or recovering from COVID19.
- **Families and friends** grieving the recent loss of loved ones.
- **The war on Ukraine:** Protection for Ukrainians and that sanctions and pressure will end the invasion.
- **Pray** for all those battling addiction.

***Our prayer team is here to pray for you!*** Please reach out via our comment card, call the office or email [bethelprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:bethelprinceton@gmail.com).

		<b>May Birthdays</b>			
<b>Kathy Klei</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Brittney Lueck</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Deb Droogsma</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Rowen Marclo</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Audrey Hendricks</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Leroy Koppendrayer</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Isalah Schiebout</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Elsa Storbakken</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Kari Eller</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Gumby (Pat) Carman</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Lydia Erickson</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Wayne Holmstrom</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Teri Hyrkas</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Cheryl Schiebout</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Michelle Roberts</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Terry Reed</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Carlene Koppendrayer</b>	<b>20</b>		

### **Deacons Corner:**

**GENERAL FUND:**

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>+/-VARIANCE</u>
Offering Received 5/8/22:	\$530.00	\$ 5,171.35	\$ 4,641.35
Offerings Received YTD:	\$ 86,732.79	\$ 98,255.65	\$ 11,522.86

**BUILDING FUND:**

Debt Reduction YTD \$1451.00

SPECIAL OFFERING: None